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REMARKS

In the Non-Final Office Action, Examiner Brier objected to and rejected pending claims 24-33 on various grounds. The Applicant responds to each rejection as subsequently recited herein, and respectfully requests reconsideration and further examination of the present application under 37 CFR § 1.112:

A. Claim 28 was objected to because of an informality

The Applicant has cancelled claim 28 herein without disclaimer or prejudice as to the claimed subject matter. Withdrawal of the objection of claim 28 under §112, ¶1 is therefore respectfully requested.

B. Claims 24-33 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, ¶1 as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention.

The Applicant has cancelled claims 24-33 herein without disclaimer or prejudice as to the claimed subject matter. Withdrawal of the rejection of claims 24-33 under §112, ¶1 is therefore respectfully requested.

C. Claims 24-33 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Japanese Patent Application Publication No. 1-200285 to Kato

The Applicant has thoroughly considered Examiner Brier's remarks concerning the patentability of claims 24-33 over *Kato*. The Applicant has also thoroughly read *Kato*. *Kato* discloses moving a cursor at one speed upon a continuous depression of a

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corresponding cursor moving key, and increasing the speed of cursor to a second speed after prescribed time period or longer of the continuous depression of a corresponding cursor moving key. *Kato* fails to teach or suggest the cursor speed being variable within a first speed range prior to the prescribed time period and the cursor speed being variable within a second speed range after the prescribed time period.

By comparison, the present invention teaches an employment of Schmidt trigger 434, a timer 436 and a look-up table within a calculator 438 to operate the system of the present invention in accordance with the following exemplary look-up table:

LOOK UP TABLE

PRESCRIBED TIME PERIOD	TIMING SIGNALS (ASCENDING ORDER)	SPEED RANGE	CURSOR SPEED (ASCENDING ORDER)
Prior to Expiration	T1	Low	LS1
	T2		LS2
	T3		LS3
	T4		LS4
	T5		LS5
Expired	T6	High	HS1
	T7		HS2
	Т8		HS3
	T9		HS4
	T10		HS5

The timing signals are generated within the Schmidt trigger 434 senses an application of force on one or more resistors R402-408. From the table, a generation of five of less timing signals T1-T5 occurs during the prescribed time period with each timing signal T1-T5 having a different low speed LS1-LS5 within a low speed range. Also from the table, a generation of six or more timing signals T6-T10 represents an expiration of the prescribed time period with each timing signal T6-T10 having a different corresponding high speed HS1-HS5 within a high speed range.

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To better differentiate the present invention of *Kato* and the remaining art of record, the Applicant has cancelled claims 24-33 and added claims 34-43. The Applicant respectfully asserts that Kato and the remaining art of record, in combination, fail to disclose, teach or suggest the following limitations of independent claims 34 and 40:

- 1. "wherein, upon an initial application of force on said user-interface by the user, the actual displacement speed of the cursor is <u>variable</u> within a first speed range" and" wherein, upon a predetermined time interval after the initial application of force on said user-interface by the user, the actual displacement speed of the cursor is <u>variable</u> within a second speed range" as recited in independent claim 34; and
- 2. "at least one timing signal indicative of the user-desired manipulation of the cursor as sensed by said user-interface is generated", "an actual displacement speed of the cursor as represented by said display is <u>variable</u> within a first speed range when a total generation of timing signals is less than a pre-specified number" and "the actual displacement speed of the cursor is <u>variable</u> within a second speed range when the total generation of timing signals is equal to or less than the pre-specified number" as recited in independent claim 40.

Withdrawal of the rejection of claims 24-33 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by *Kato* and an allowance of claims 34-43 are therefore respectfully requested.

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SUMMARY

Examiner Brier's 35 U.S.C. §§102(b) and 112, ¶1 rejections of claims 24-33 have been obviated by the remarks herein concerning the written support and patentability of claim 24-33. The Applicant respectfully submits that claims 24-33 as amended herein fully satisfy the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §§ 102, 103 and 112. In view of the foregoing, favorable consideration and early passage to issue of the present application is respectfully requested. If any points remain in issue that may best be resolved through a personal or telephonic interview, Examiner Brier is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Dated: April 2, 2003

Respectfully submitted, Renate M. Sombroek et al.

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